

Many of my colleagues know that I have had a longstanding interest in the Asian region, and therefore, I am delighted Queens is becoming an increasingly recognized center of Asian commerce in the United States. I wholeheartedly applaud the Queens Library for its diligent efforts and foresight in this regard.

For a hundred years, the Queens Library has nurtured the community, supplying its needs for information and community services. As it heads into its next hundred years, I wish them the best, and look forward to the new developments it will surely bring.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICTOR
BACELIS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Victor Bacelis on the receipt of the Jefferson Public Service Award, which he received on Wednesday, June 19, 1996. The Jefferson Award was founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Senator Robert Taft, Jr., and is presented each year by the American Institute for Public Service as part of a celebration of service to America. Mr. Bacelis is a model constituent who received this award as the result of a selfless act which helped a fellow Californian.

Victor's native Mexican village in the Yucatan Peninsula was so poor there were no schools. His family never had much in the way of material luxuries, but was rich in the values of hard work, generosity, and kindness. He was working between 96 and 100 hours a week at three different jobs to support himself and those he cared about. He was mopping the floor in a Fremont McDonalds when he found \$600 on the floor. Most people would have kept it and told no one. After all, it was cash, and certainly would have tempted even the most honest person. But Victor did as the law instructed; he reported it. The money remained unclaimed. Victor then made a decision that very few people would make. Even though he was saving to buy a house, he gave the money to charity.

A local family had recently made a public plea for help. Adrian Sandoval, a 22-month-old boy, needed a bone marrow transplant, and his parents could not afford the procedure. Victor was touched by the story of this family, which had already lost one young child to the same rare genetic disease. Mr. Bacelis contributed the cash he had discovered and in doing so, saved a young and innocent life. He says, and I quote, "I couldn't accept what was happening at the time. I would have traded places with that baby, but that's impossible and I had to be a realist and take another form of action. * * * It was not my intention to be recognized as a 'hero,' I just wanted to help. It's part of my obligation as a human to help others."

His involvement in the Sandovals' lives did not end with the \$600 contribution. He makes an effort to support transplant patients by recruiting potential bone marrow donors for other children. He volunteers his time to the San Francisco-based Latino Marrow Donor Program. And even as public recognition of his efforts grows, he continues to decline any

personal gain. He has been offered money awards, a full scholarship and housing at Stanford University, and even a job with the San Francisco 49'ers, but none of these offers interested him. Instead, he wants everyone who finds value in his actions to become registered donors.

Mr. Speaker, Victor Bacelis has found a cause in which he believes. Through a simple twist of fate, he has taken the opportunity to touch the lives of others more needy than himself. His story restores and reinforces faith in the integrity of the American people. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing Victor Bacelis for his magnanimous contribution to the lives of transplant patients. I wish him much success in all his future endeavors.

THE CHAPMAN REUNION—A
FAMILY TRADITION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, family reunions are an important part of our personal histories. During the July 5th weekend, the descendants of Lemon and Joanna Chapman gathered in White Hall, MD, for their 22d annual family reunion.

Families are important institutions. They are, so to speak, our proving ground. Our first lessons in life are taught and learned in the family. It is there that we learn to love, dream, respect, disagree, forgive, share, take orders, have faith, along with other life skills. The foundation of the family is there when we need it. The stronger and more stable the foundation/family the safer and more confident we are when we venture.

We often hear about the destruction of the family and how our young people are without family values. Unfortunately, for some, those are valid statements but there are many, many strong and caring family units in our communities. The Chapman family is one of those strong and caring families. I commend the members of this family for recognizing the importance of the family, its values, and its history. As a society, we must do all we can do to build upon the strength of these families to help strengthen the fabric of the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, the Lemon and Joanna Chapman family has produced many fine citizens. I would like to wish them and their friends a healthy, happy, safe and prosperous year until they meet again.

ISADOR BERENSTEIN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it seems that it is emigrants who epitomize the American ideal of success through hard work. Isador Berenstein was born in Poland and achieved some success there only to see it destroyed by the Nazis. He barely escaped with his life when Dachau was liberated only a day before the Nazis were to kill him. He came to Amer-

ica to start over and made his way to the Arthur Avenue indoor bazaar. There, for the next 40 years, he ran the housewares stand. There are only in America facets to his story; his bargaining in Yiddish-accented Italian with newly emigrated Italian housewives, his reorganizing the market when the city allowed it to deteriorate and his being chosen to lead by the overwhelmingly Italian-American merchants for more than a generation. I have known him for 20 years and have admired his good works and his commitment to the community. His retirement is a loss to all of us.

IN MEMORY OF MOLLY BEATTIE

HON. BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an extraordinary woman—Molly Beattie, who recently passed away. Molly was the first woman Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and in her short tenure, earned the admiration and respect of lawmakers who work with her on wildlife issues.

I did not always agree with Molly. However, she never failed to listen to the other side of an issue in order to resolve policy disagreements. She was an unfailing and dedicated public servant.

She came to Arkansas to hear my constituents protest her proposed closing of some of our fish hatcheries. She listened, then worked with me and other Members of Congress to establish a commission to examine the health and benefits of America's national fish hatchery system. Her common sense approach will mean that inefficient hatcheries will be closed and efficient facilities will continue generating revenue for the Government.

Molly stepped in again early this year to help me develop legislation that will prevent closure of national wildlife refuges in case of another Government shutdown.

Molly will be sorely missed by her friends and admirers in this body but most of all by the fish and wildlife she was sworn to protect.

She walked her walk and talked her talk and was true to her beliefs. She took her job very seriously setting a new standard for environmental consciousness. I believe that she loved her job and those around her, but was most comfortable in her cabin in the woods. I join my colleagues in honoring Molly Beattie as a thoughtful and dedicated human being whose life on her beloved earth was cut all too short.

TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE IN SAUDI
ARABIA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 26, 1996, 19 young American airmen tragically lost their lives in Saudi Arabia. My sympathetic prayers go out to those families and friends across this grieving Nation whose lives' paths have now been painfully altered in bearing the great weight of so precious a loss. In particular, my deepest regards